

Nation



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WHATEVER HAPPENED TO GOOD MANNERS?

Good manners, while we had them, made life easier.

No one knows exactly when good manners were killed off, but for sure they are gone from our society never to return again...

This is really sad when you really think about it. Let me tell you a little story which I feel plays a part in the death of good manners...

One day not long after the relocation to Chisasibi from the island. I went to visit one of my cousins. We were sitting around the table chatting among ourselves. I saw my uncle standing by the window, watching the children go by on their way to school. He must have been waiting for the right bunch to walk by. As soon as they came by his house, he knocked on the window to get their attention. When they looked his way, he held up his forefinger to them and he laughed. My cousin and I went to the window to see to whom he was giving the finger. We saw some kids passing by and they were laughing at his gesture. My cousin asked him why he was giving these kids the finger and he said that every time they pass by they were always lifting their fingers at him and he thought this was some sort of greeting that the young people were practicing these days and he just wanted to greet them in their own way.

We thought it was funny at that time but I soon realized that this was an example of disrespect to an Elder as well as a gesture of bad manners. If these kids had been taught about good manners and how to respect their Elders, either at home or in school, they might never have given the finger to my uncle or to anyone else, for that matter. And God only knows that the effect of such things is potentially cumulative.

I believe that such a thing as good manners consists of respect for the natural state of things, since the world was created for us to share and to enjoy, so let us enjoy it together.

Good manners died the day these kids first give my uncle the finger and even after all the wishing or backward gazing nothing can ever change the fact that someone out there killed off decent good manners and it's quite impossible that they will ever return again.

M.S. is from Chisasibi.

by M.S.

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COVER PHOTO:

Archival photo from the early 1900s, Waskaganish.
Cover design: Katerina Cizek

To the editor: Here it is. Whoop de doo. The latest installment. It's not the Rez Notes we've all come to know and love and might be the worst piece ever written. It's frightening. I hope someone out there likes it though and is deemed fit for our fine publication. Please, edit out all references, if any, to sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll. Neil

I ran into an old classmate I hadn't seen for maybe 15 years late one Chisasibi evening. I was behind the community centre in the shadows under a hot air vent. "Why?" I asked suspiciously. "Give us a light," a male voice said in Cree. He sounded familiar so I approached. "Who are you?" he asked when I addressed him by name. I told him who I was and he remembered. He had been one of the brightest in many of my classes. Excellent in math and science. Good in English. And fair, even, in French. One of the first to master the phrase, "Moi aussi." We would teasingly pick on him. He graduated from high school. I had left by then. Val d'Or, I think, and then Hull.

I heard of him in Lennoxville just outside of Sherbrooke from a Mohawk friend two years later. "You know that guy?" he asked with a big smile. "He's wacky." Out of several thousand students he was the only one who ever used the word, "wacky." I had heard it used only on TV. "He was on the phone long-distance from my place once crying saying he was homesick," the Mohawk confided on more than a few occasions. That was the last I heard of him. I may have bumped into him once in the past 12 or 14 years but, apparently, it was nothing memorable.

But there he was, years later, standing under a vent in Chisasibi late at night with a plastic bagful of beer and cigarettes in his pocket. I did not greet him properly right away because he seemed not the way I remembered him. After a few awkward what-are-you-doings and how's-it-goings, I was glad I ran into him and gave him a friendly but "hip" handshake. And not only because he had a huge can of beer which he passed around generously. We stood for a while, barely talking. I bummed another cigarette just as representatives from the local constabulary drove slowly by. "What are they doing?" I asked. "Want another shot?" he asked casually. "Not right now," I said. The police went behind the corner.

"You going to the big meeting tomorrow?" I asked later, once I had relaxed a bit. "What meeting?" he replied. I explained.



Celebrity contest: Abel Bosum & family with Serge Savard, formerly of the Habs.

"You can't say anything against them or you know what will happen to you," he warned. "They were f***ing a**holes when we were in school!" It wasn't *that* bad, I thought, but agreed with him anyway. He nuzzled the girl he was with. For some reason he started getting paranoid about my situation and backed away from me a bit. "I guess I'm gonna leave you now," I said. "Why?!" he asked, offering me another shot of his beer. "It looks like you guys are getting..." I paused, "...romantic." They both laughed. "No, it's okay. Stay," he assured me.

Seconds later, the same police cruiser stopped in front of us and a woman rushed out of the passenger side and headed straight toward my long-lost friend. "Where's the money!?!?" she asked grabbing him by the collar and pushing him against the wall. "Where's the money!?" she insisted. The other girl took off. But the uniforms just stood by, picking up his plastic bag filled with beer and watching. "Bring the money," she insisted. "Is that his wife?" I stupidly asked the cop. The scene ("Where's the money?" "I don't have it!") went on for minutes, it seemed. Several trucks slowed down for a look. It got a tad violent at one point and the police stepped in but quickly backed off. Finally he tired of the pushing and arguing and walked over to the cruiser. "You're getting me arrested?!" he asked. "O.K. then, let's go!!" He got in and she followed. They disappeared behind the cruiser's dark tinted windows.

I lifted my arm in a hesitant half salute and walked into the poolhall as they drove off and wondered what the moral, if any, of that story was.

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PAYABLE TO BEESUM COMMUNICATIONS

CREES CAUTIONED TO STAY AWAY FROM PLAN

The recycling business is filled with ambitious entrepreneurs trying to make a fast buck off unwary investors, says a top U.S. waste-management executive.

"There's lots of people in Wall Street who wished they never invested in it," he said. "That's why they look for people like the Crees and municipalities to invest in it."

Joe Noorlag, marketing general manager for Laidlaw Inc. in Houston, was contacted by *The Nation* to comment on a plan for Crees to invest millions in a scheme to build recycling centres in dozens of U.S. cities.

The plan is being promoted by businessman Walter Childress, owner of a little-known Houston-based company, Selaco International Inc. Few details about the company were available from Duns Market Identifiers, which lists information about U.S. corporations.

Selaco is said to have 15 employees and is involved in "refuse systems" and "recycling." No information was available about its sales, net worth, employment growth or number of accounts.

Noorlag was skeptical about Childress's plan and advised the Crees to keep their money in the bank. If the plan is so good, Noorlag wondered, why didn't Childress ask a bank for the money, instead of going all the way to Northern Quebec? And why haven't other, larger companies already done it, he asked: "If it could be done, they'd be beating down the doors of municipal governments to do it."

Noorlag also contradicted a story that Childress has reportedly told Cree leaders. Childress apparently claimed that Laidlaw, a giant waste-management multinational, was interested in buying his recycling technology because it is so innovative.

Noorlag, one of two executives who run Laidlaw's Texas operations, said he's never met or even heard of Childress. "I've never heard of anything like this."

If it goes through, the investment of anywhere from \$2 to \$27 million could be one of the largest investments Crees have ever made from their compensation funds.

-Alex Roslin



TEXAS TYCOON APPEALS TO CREES FOR MEGABUCKS BROTHER, CAN YOU SPARE \$27 MILLION?

A Texas entrepreneur is promising Crees millions in profits if they invest in a recycling megaproject he is promoting.

Entrepreneur Walter Childress and Cree leaders were both tight-lipped about details of the plan and how much money Crees may invest from their compensation funds.

We have learned the investment may be anywhere from \$2 to \$27 million, which is to come from the Board of Compensation and/or the James Bay Eeyou Corporation.

The plan would see recycling centres built in dozens of cities across the U.S. The centres would recycle or compost nearly all waste in city dumps and resell it as fertilizer and other supposedly lucrative products.

Childress has reportedly told Crees there is big money to be made: \$400 million a month in revenues, according to one source.

While Cree officials appear to believe the plan is worth serious attention, executives of large U.S. waste-management companies contacted by *The Nation* aren't so sure.

"My daddy told me, 'When something looks too good to be true, it probably is,'" said Joe Noorlag, marketing general manager for Laidlaw Inc. in Houston. Asked if the plan could work, Noorlag said, "No," and advised Crees to hold on to their money.

"I'm telling you, it's like spinning trash into gold. In the Middle Ages, lots of people went around claiming they could turn garbage into gold. They usually hung those guys with the witches."

Pete Block, a spokesman for Brauning Ferris Industries Inc., said Childress's plan comes at a bizarre time, since the recycling business has been in a serious slump for a couple of years.

"Recycling hit a peak in 1995 and in 1996 it fell out of bed," said Block. "Composting is about as sexy as a Yellow Cab and not quite as rewarding. It needs big customers and they're hard to find."

Asked whether Childress's plan could work, Block replied, "Frankly, I'm a little bit surprised. I'd say that's awfully ambitious."

Childress, contacted in Houston, refused to answer questions about his plan, saying he had agreed to let Cree leaders answer any questions. "We agreed that until we have more of the pieces sullied up it's just at the discussion stage at this point. There's nothing real secretive about it. It's just a matter of protocol, I believe," said Childress, who identified himself as a Muskogean Creek from Oklahoma.

We were not able to contact Chief Billy Diamond, who is promoting the plan, or Grand Chief Matthew Coon Come for this article. Bill Grodinsky, corporate secretary for the Cree Regional Authority, confirmed that Cree leaders met with Childress to hear proposals in February.

"I think people around the table found it interesting," Grodinsky said. "It's an intriguing approach." He refused to reveal details of the plan, saying that some aspects are "trade secrets."

Grodinsky would not put a dollar amount on the possible Cree investment, but emphasized that no commitment to invest will be made without discussion before the full boards of the Board of Compensation and Eeyou Corporation. He said an independent review of the project is now being done by accountants Price Waterhouse to see if it's feasible.

by Alex Roslin

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continued from page 7

sonous, fraudulent and genocidal" practices of the Canadian state.

- *Statement from the Canadian Alliance in Solidarity with the Native People*

THE RALLYE

The Chibougamau Rallye has come and gone, and Crees came out and came on strong as usual.

Starting with the Professional category, John Gunner placed 6th, Philip Neeposh 10th and Jimmy Matoush 11th (all of Mistissini and all riding Polaris).

In Semi-Professionals, Briand Coonishish of Mistissini took 4th, followed by Walter Capississit of O.J. in 5th, Francois Iserhoff in 8th, Curtis Bosum (14th), Georges Coon (20th), Paul Longchap (24th), Walter Bosum (25th) and the second-fittest Cree Redfern Cheezo (30th).

In Sprints, Briand Coonishish came in 2nd place.

In the Women's race, three ladies from Mistissini put on an impressive show: Ellsabeth Gunner (2nd), Taria Coon (3rd) and Laury Gunner (5th).

Dany Gunner of Mist. took first place in the Amateurs category. Next were Henry Wapachee of O.J. in 3rd, Shaun Coonishish (4th), Mathieu Iserhoff (7th), Chris Quinn (8th), Charlie Petawabano (9th), Daniel Bosum (10th), Dany Rabbitskin (12th), Will Shecapio-Blacksmith (13th), Jason Mianscum (14th), Paul Swallow (17th), Samuel-Robert Rabbitskin (18th), Hugo Hebert (20th), Normand Neeposh (22nd) and Stanley Neeposh (23rd).

In the Maitres category: Georges Neeposh (2nd).

And the President category: Gaston Cooper (11th) and Rene Bosum (41st).

INUKJUAK GETS NEW TRAINING CENTRE

The new Nunavik Technical-Vocational Education Centre celebrates its official opening on March 20 in Inukjuak.

The NTVC is one of the largest structures in Nunavik and one of the most advanced schools of its kind in Quebec. Developed by the Kativik School Board to help provide a skilled workforce in Nunavik, the \$18.5-million Centre uses the latest technology and equipment to teach everything from light trades to



heavy-industry trades. It is open to high school students who have completed their Secondary IV or V, as well as adults.

The Centre has a residence, and 63 students are currently enrolled in five courses (including heavy vehicle mechanics and boat navigation).

For more info call (514) 482-8220.

U.S. CHIDES CANADA'S TREATMENT OF NATIVES

Treatment of the First Nations is one of Canada's biggest human-rights problems, says the U.S. State Department.

Everything from Quebec separation to a high suicide rate to disputes over resources were listed in the department's latest review of the human rights situation around the world.

READER'S DIGEST...

continued from page 6

No vote of any definable group (in the Charlottetown referendum). Ordinary Natives feared the enormous concentration of power that would result in the hands of ambitious leaders." This wasn't the case. Crees did vote for it as we were well informed by our leaders and trusted them. Perhaps too many others worried when Ovide Mercredi said he'd try to "sell it" to his people. For the majority, the Charlottetown deal simply wasn't enough.

Melvin talks as everyone else of the Indians "lacking." People have hung on them a lack of education, a lack of employment, housing or any of a number of faults but the truth is sadder. It is a lack of resources that the newcomers simply took without Indian consent or knowledge.

It is not surprising that Canadians such as Melvin, Nielson or Reader's Digest can

"Quebec's Indians continue to regard the separatist political government with deep misgivings," says the department.

The State Department also noted the 1995 police killing of an unarmed aboriginal protester at Ipperwash, Ont. Family members of the slain man filed a \$7-million wrongful death suit against Ontario government officials and police, but said they will drop the suit if a full public inquiry is held.

Indian Affairs Minister Ron Irwin is also noted as having rejected the recommendations of the landmark Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples. Ottawa has yet to officially respond to the report.

INNU TAKE MINERS TO SUPREME COURT

An Innu family has asked the Supreme Court of Canada to grant an injunction to stop "the invasion by the Quebec government" of its ancestral land near Sept-Iles.

The area is the site of one of the world's largest finds of nickel, cobalt and copper deposits. It has been overrun by prospectors.

Philomene and George McKenzie are members of the Uashat Mani Utenam First Nation. They say the development is already destroying the environment and social fabric of the community. Suicides among the youth have skyrocketed since the SM-3 hydro project was rammed through by Hydro-Quebec, they say.

understand and sympathize with the attempts by Jewish people to get back the money in Swiss banks as a result of the atrocities of World War II, but they do not see the Indian claims in the same light. Perhaps these Canadians have gotten used to having taken the land away.

But when all is said and done there are two concrete actions I can do: never buy or fully review Melvin's book and never subscribe to Reader's Digest. When we talked to Reader's Digest about this article they sent us their book called *Through Indian Eyes* to show us they weren't racist. One of the staff said it was interesting but it still didn't prove their case. To have such a publication that made an enjoyable common-man's read print such a slanted article is a disappointment and one would hope not a sign of the times. I recommend neither the book nor the Digest for your bookshelf.

OUTDOORS

THE NATIONAL GREAT OUTDOORS SHOW

BY WILLIAM NICHOLLS

I HEAR STORIES of the old days, real old days, where a boat came around once a year with a very limited selection. Janie Panchano reminded me of this when she met with the other Cree culture coordinators back in February. Can you imagine those Crees of long ago? Spying the tartan patterns of the cloth. Those yellows must have seemed the yellow of daisies. Now imagine that person in a modern-day department store. The choices!

That's how I felt at Montreal's Great Outdoors Show. Never before have I been transported to hunter/fisher/gatherer paradise. Never has spring ever felt so close, so near, so touchable...

One of the first things I touched was the reclining position taken in the Goose Chair. In a relaxed position I knew that this one-man-blind \$169 chair would have the geese landing within range. The chair comes with a huge shell that looks like a goose that flips up when the honkers fly within range. My only fear: the folly of an inexperienced hunter to realize that the goose wasn't real! It is amazing to think that geese would be fooled by a 4-foot long representative of themselves, but it happens! One long-time guide says that it works like a charm. After all he designed it! That's when you know something is working. When someone in the biz does it.



Margaret Wapachee.

I got a chance to try out the bows, an attraction I believe some Crees have turned to and I can understand the hype. Compound bows when fully extended are like holding air. Bow-making company Bear was nice enough to provide a trailer where you could release an arrow. I wasn't used to the lack of pressure but that still didn't detour me from trying.

Another thing I was interested in was the Inferno! firestarter. A new cheap substitute for Zip. When I talk cheap, I don't mean



This 26-footer goes for a measly \$2,150.

bad. Not only can this stuff do the job but it's even non-toxic, has no nasty smell, is waterproof, has an 8" flame and still costs less! We tested it out. Lights well with a high flame that lasts 15 minutes. A small miracle that can be had by calling Robert Senneville at 1-800-879-6489.



Into golf? One company did something interesting when they started to make golf clubs with company logos on them. Normally I would consider this dorky but Promo Golf Art Inc. of Montreal pulls it off well. Someone should recommend these in addition to the prizes at the annual Cree golf tourney.

Of course the regular features were all there from hipwaders, guns, fishing equipment, boats, all-terrain vehicles, camping equipment, outfitters and whatever else you would think you need to go into the great outdoors. In fact there were over 700 exhibitors present. Too many to mention!



Mistissini's booth.

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Will gets buck fever.

This show should be attended by Crees and I wholeheartedly recommend it to anyone.

But where is my patriotism? After all, the 11 of the officially recognized Indian and Inuit Peoples in Quebec were present at this conference. When I heard this I of course kept my eye out for them. And there they were in their own little segregated section. Sort of a mini-reserve that, according to the Native exhibitors, were well-attended by the visitors. Crees from Ouje-Bougoumou, Waskaganish, Waswanipi, Chisasibi and Mistissini were present promoting their com-

munities and tourism services.

Native businesses on hand included the Societe Amiskw, Artisanat Gros-Louis, Traditional Attikamek Indian Art, Chief Johnny Montour promoting his community's tourism plans, an old friend Theresa Provost, Tamarak Waskaganish, the Abenaki Museum, Marina Micka Enr., Chisasibi Mandow Agency, Big Beaver Trading Post, Inter Nations Travel Agency, Mashk from Pointe Bleu, La Griffe du Loup, Kad Creations and Okwaho's Fitness Adventure. One day is not enough time to look at this show. Next time it comes to town, I plan on a few days!



Ken Nicholls, one of the Great Outdoorsmen.



Alice Shecapio, one of the exhibitors.



Sarah Mianscum, Ouje-Bougoumou.



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"Doesn't that mean I have to think?" NO! It does NOT take a "Math Genius Rocket Scientist" to figure this out! Because it's THOUGHT-FREE! The fact that you're reading this should be proof enough! And if you're at all worried about getting SOMETHING THIS VALUABLE for NOTHING, rest assured — IT IS WORTH IT! ALL you need to do, is simply "GET a CLUE"!

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Send \$9.99 in cash or money order, company cheque, sorry no personal cheques accepted, to: April Fool's Enterprises, P.O. Box 48036, 5678 Parc Avenue, Montreal, Quebec H2V 4S8.

BIG MONEY! BIG MONEY! BIG MONEY! BIG MONEY! BIG MONEY! BIG MONEY!

BIG MONEY! BIG MONEY! BIG MONEY! BIG MONEY! BIG MONEY! BIG MONEY!



BIG MONEY! BIG MONEY! BIG MONEY! BIG MONEY! BIG MONEY! BIG MONEY!



Sex In a Pan Anyone?

As promised, we are offering more tips on everyday living either in the bush or in the communities. Thanks again to all those who have made suggestions for tips that you use. If you have some please call (514) 272-3077 and leave your tip with us. As for the title, I was going through some cookbooks and came across this recipe. It must be all right to use it because it was in *Best Recipes This Side of Heaven, Home-tested Recipes from Anglican Church Ladies* and owned by my mother, a Pentecostal lady herself, but I digress into murky gray waters. By the way I'm looking for a "buddin" recipe to feature here. You can fax your version to (514) 278-9914. And now for some sex in a pan.

BY WILLIAM NICHOLLS

Sex in a Pan

1ST LAYER:

1/2 cup flour, 1/2 cup butter, 1 cup pecans, chopped
Cook in 8x12" pan, at 350 F for 15 minutes. Cool.

2ND LAYER:

1 - 8 oz. pkg. Philadelphia cream cheese. 1 cup icing sugar
Cream together and put on top of first layer.

3RD LAYER:

1/2 of a large tub of Cool Whip
Spread Cool Whip over second layer

4TH LAYER:

1 - 3&1/2 oz. pkg. instant chocolate pudding, 1&1/2 cup milk
Let set a few minutes, then spread on third layer.

5TH LAYER:

1 - 3&1/2 oz. pkg. instant vanilla pudding, 1&1/2 cups milk
Let set a few minutes, then spread on fourth layer.

6TH LAYER:

1/2 tub of Cool Whip
Put the rest of the Cool Whip over fifth layer. Decorate with shavings of chocolate.

Note: I'm told that this freezes well. However, my family never waits long enough for me to test this theory. Recipe from the Emmanuel Anglican Church Richvale, Richmond Hill, Ont.

Garbage problems

Dogs, cats or other animals getting at your garbage. Use Javex or another strong bleach. Put it into a spray bottle and spray your garbage bags or around your box. The ammonia apparently disturbs the sense of smell. If you're in the bush some of it sprayed around the food cache may help.

Stain removal

- Quickly is the key word in any stain. Flood it with water to keep the stain from setting into the material.
- Sprinkle a greasy stain with cornstarch or talc. After 10 minutes brush away. Then use any of the removal styles listed.
- Check the label as some materials can't be treated with normal household cleaners. If you are unsure then test the cleaner on a hidden part of the clothes such as an inside seam. Alcohol, ammonia and vinegar may affect the colour.
- Clean whites with chlorine bleach.
- Look on the cleaning bottle. An Enzyme Prewash Product is

effective for milk, blood, egg, meat juices or grass.

THREE WAYS TO CLEANSE THE SPOT: 1) To soften a hardened stain dampen it with a few drops of cleaner. Now dampen a cloth with the same cleaner. Press the cloth against the stain for about 30 minutes. If the stain is the size of a quarter, put the cloth over the stain and a book on top of it to keep the cloth against the stain. Check every so often and re-position the cloth as it picks up a portion of the stain. Make sure the cloth is kept damp by adding a few more drops of cleaner as necessary. 2) Sponge a stain by first laying down a dry-absorbent cloth. Place the stained cloth over it. Now gently rub it with a cloth dampened with a cleaner. With delicate materials, instead of rubbing take a spoon and tap the cloth with the bowl section of the spoon. *Hint:* Use as little cleaner as possible and reposition the bottom cloth and cleaning cloth as soon as either pick up any of the stain. Work from the centre of the stain to the outside to avoid making a ring. 3) Flushing involves laying down an absorbent cloth first. Then lay the stain on the cloth. Now take an eyedropper and drip the cleaner onto the spot applying only as much as can be absorbed by the cloth below. Reposition the cloth as soon as it picks up any of the stain.

-Don't use soap on a fruit stain as it will set it. Soak instead in a solution of 1/2 teaspoon of liquid dishwashing cleaner, 1 tablespoon of vinegar and 1 quart of water. Then rinse. If the stain remains, try sponging with rubbing alcohol.

-Blood and vomit are cleaned by soaking for 30 minutes in a solution of 1 quart warm water, 1/2 teaspoon liquid dish detergent and 1 tablespoon ammonia. Rinse after.

-Grass stains come out if you use a non-oily nail polish cleaner, then flush with a cleaning solvent.

-When vacuuming rub cornstarch into soiled parts of the rug, sofa or chair to clean it better.

Caught up?

Fishing hooks can be removed with a pair of pliers. I learned this the hard way. Don't pull the hook out. Instead, you push the hook through the skin going in the direction of the curve. Then using the cutting part of the pliers cut the barb off. Then reverse direction and pull the hook out. No skin or flesh is torn this way. If you don't have pliers, drive around until you find who has one but you should carry one. If the person hasn't had a tetanus shot in the past five years go to a clinic for one. Thanks to an uncle for teaching me this.

Smells like?

-To get rid of the smell of fish on your hands use lemon or lime juice and then wash.

-Lunch boxes and thermoses can get that fresh smell back by placing a paper towel dampened with vinegar in it and leaving overnight. Wash in the morning.

-After cutting onions, put some salt on your hands, work it in and then wash. Another solution is to rinse them with mouthwash or scrub with toothpaste. To prevent the smell, use either rubber gloves or put your hands inside a plastic bag.

-For those die-hard smokers tired of smelling up your house: Get some kitty litter. Put a layer of litter in your ashtrays to control the odor. It also puts out the cigarette butt, improving household safety.



Canadian solidarity and equity **add up!**

MAJOR FEDERAL TRANSFERS TO QUEBEC

	% POPULATION	% TRANSFERS
1990-1991	25	30
1991-1992	25	30
1992-1993	25	30
1993-1994	25	31
1994-1995	25	30
1995-1996	25	31
1996-1997	25	31
1997-1998	25	31

In the name of **solidarity**, the Government of Canada provides transfers to all provinces for health and social services.

In the name of **equity**, the Government of Canada provides additional transfers to less wealthy provinces.

Quebec receives over **\$10 billion** in federal transfers, which is more than any other province.

Who says Quebec isn't getting its fair share?

Canada

Adopting Assimilation

BY NAKUSET

In 1967, Jewish Family Services began putting Native children into Jewish homes. These stories tell what it is like for a Native American to be adopted into a white Jewish family. It is told through a series of interviews involving four adults. The questions are direct and will give you a view into their lives and experiences. You will learn about their experiences growing up and in school. Questions were asked concerning finding their own birth parents, going back to their homeland, embracing their native culture and how they see themselves today. Also, you will find out how they will raise their children culturally, and if they believe they are assimilated. All people mentioned in the stories have been in contact with their birth parent(s) within the last year.

This practice stopped over time and today Jewish Family Services no longer exists and has been absorbed into the existing government bureaucracy. I tried to find out when it stopped and why. One woman told me that it stopped because of lack of requests for Native children. Another woman said by 1985 the law changed and that children of a different race should be matched with their own. The reason why it stopped was because of identity issues and people's rights. She told me she has been working with Social Services in Kahnawake.

This subject of assimilation through adoption is extremely interesting and it generated quite a bit of excitement. I feel people need to be educated on this subject so history doesn't repeat itself. Early this year, United States passed legislation that Native children can be adopted into white families. That means a whole new generation will go through the same problems. Bottom line is that it doesn't work. Somebody has got to do something about it. Perhaps we can make a difference.

In this issue we meet Dakota. In future issues I will introduce you to Melanie, Ellah, and David. These are their stories.

DAKOTA

Dakota is 26 years old from the Cree Nation. She was born in Manitoba and was two and a half years old when she was adopted.

Q: Do you know why you were given up for adoption?

A: My mother was on the road to alcoholism. My parents were very young, and their union was not working. My grandparents chose to put me up for adoption. It wasn't my mother's choice. I never met my grandparents. My grandfather, he passed away a couple of years now. I spoke to my grandmother on the phone, but we didn't have much of a conversation.

Q: What new culture were you adopted into?

A: I would call it, uh, the major culture, that we call Canadian and American (because my mother's American). Secondary, Judaism, but I wouldn't put Judaism as the first culture.



Nakuset.

Q: How was the relationship with your parents growing up?

A: Well, it was generally good. I had a lot of fun pretty much when I was growing up, umh, but it was hard at times because... umh... I had a lot of emotional things that I didn't... that I couldn't ... They were all happy, it was me that was upset. I guess it was stress (*laughs*).

Q: What was stressful about it?

A: Well, as a child I was angry, and they didn't want me to be angry. They were very supportive. They would try to talk to me about it, but we didn't really have any answers for what the anger stems from. Nobody really knows why I was angry. I think it was because I was adopted. I remember at a young age, not wanting to be adopted. I was in two foster homes and by that time I was pretty angry. So, I guess, all in all, it was good.

Q: How is your present relationship with your parents?

A: I would say it's the same. It's still the same kind of emotional... umh... triggers... that might still be there. I mean I still have things that I don't feel comfortable telling them about, or they don't feel comfortable hearing, so there's stressful areas, but generally the relationship is good. I see my parents about three times a month.

Q: How many siblings do you have?

A: My parents have three children.

Q: How was the relationship with them?

A: It was good. It was great! My brothers were considerably older than me, like nine or 10 years, so we didn't have any rivalry problems, but with my sister, because I was closer to her, I vented my anger at her.

Q: How old is she?

A: A year and a half older than me. They treated me wonderfully. It was me who sort-a had this anger. I think it was from being adopted. I really didn't have a reason to be angry at them.

Q: When did you first realize that you were Native?

A: I knew from as long ago as I can remember. I can remember the foster home. I can remember other young Native children. We all looked alike. We were wearing the clothes from the foster home, and they had a uniform.

Q: Did your parents ever introduce you to your own culture?

A: Well, not really. I would say that I was introduced to my own culture the way any white person was introduced to Native culture. It comes through like perimetres. Like if you go to a museum and there's an exhibit of Native art. That sort-a hurt me because I wanted to learn about my culture and I was afraid to ask for it. I had no concept of how to go about asking for my culture. I felt like I would offend or maybe it would be wrong to want my culture.

My parents respect cultures. They look for the good in every culture. But with Native culture, I think they were influenced by society somehow. My parents always wanted to adopt a child from a different cultural background. I don't know why they chose a Native child. I remember my parents had a book titled, "My First Book About Indians." I felt a kind of secrecy reading the book. I didn't want my parents to find out. I found the book pretty interesting. It took me a long time, I mean not until my 20s, until I really went after my culture. I think my parents wanted me to be assimilated before I went after my culture. It's a strange way to do things.

Q: How was your experience in grade school?

A: It offended me that I was learning Hebrew and I wasn't learning my own language.

Q: What school did you go to?

A: Jewish People Parot School. I learned Hebrew and Yiddish. That's when I started rebelling against school. I wouldn't do my Hebrew homework. I'd sit and cry. I didn't want to tell my parents that I wasn't doing my homework. My teachers knew, but somehow I got away with it. I chose what I wanted to learn. I don't think I wanted to fit in. It was a natural instinct to be introverted.

Q: How was high school?

A: I told my mother that I didn't want to go to a Jewish high school. She sent me to Fine Arts Core Education. Over there I felt freedom. I met people from all different backgrounds. The students didn't look at me as different. I met a Mohawk girl from Kahnawake, and it helped to meet her. I felt some kind of connection.

Q: Do you have any problems with your self-image?

A: Oh yeah! (laughs) I have problems identifying who I am. As a Native person, I want to know who I am, but I don't. I'm trying to learn about my people. It's ironic. My parents always told me: Do what you want to make yourself happy. But what I actually learned was the opposite. It was, like, I wanted to make my parents happy.



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Q: Did you ever meet your birth parents?

A: Yes, this past spring. I went to Manitoba. My father was really happy to see me. He never wanted to give me up. He was happy to know that I was interested in getting my Indian status and that I was interested in my culture and that I was educated. My father is married to a woman, who has two children from a previous marriage. Together, they have two children. It's a happy family. My siblings are my age and attending university. I was impressed and relieved because it reassured me that I had strength, like my father, who had a rough upbringing. My grandfather was a Chief. On my mother's side, she's from The Pas. She's still fighting with alcohol. I met her briefly. I didn't meet any of my siblings on my mother's side. I spoke to them on the phone. Altogether, I have 12 siblings.

Q: How do your birth parents fit into your life now?

A: Well, my father is supportive. I feel closest ties with my father. It's like a new beginning. With my mother, I feel like I have to hold her up, but I don't really put too much of a strain on myself to do that.

Q: How will you bring up your children?

A: If I have children, I would like to have Native children. First I need a husband! (laughs) That way it wouldn't be a mystery.

Q: Do you believe you're assimilated?

A: Yes, unfortunately. I speak English and French. I can say with pride that I'm Native, referring to the question, I mean obviously I've gone through the process.

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NOTICE

CREE SCHOOL BOARD POST SECONDARY AND ADULT SECONDARY-LEVEL OFF COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

**We are now accepting applications for
financial assistance for FALL 1997.**

**The application DEADLINES for Financial Assistance
for programs starting for Fall 1997 are:**

APRIL 01, 1997

**Application Forms for Financial Assistance are
Available in the Following places:**

- All Cree Communities (at the Schools)
See the Student Affairs Technicians or Guidance counsellors
- Adult Education Centres in the Communities of Chisasibi, Mistissini, Waswanipi and Waskaganish
- Cree School Board Post Secondary Offices in Montreal (1-800-463-7402) and Hull (1-800-567-9667)

Send applications, along with required documents to:

CREE SCHOOL BOARD

Attention: Jane L. Blacksmith
277 Duke Street, Suite 200
Montreal, Quebec
H3C 2M2

1-800-463-7402
514-878-9995



**IMPORTANT NOTE:
LATE applications will not be accepted.**

Mamo Schiyaychikabonano



Sherman Herodler, Tourism Activities Officer, and Joey Fireman, Marketing Officer Trainee, selling Cree Tourism at the National Great Outdoors Show in Montreal.

Eeyou Tabeytachesow Eninatamowat Eeyouch

1. New initiatives with the Federal Government are about to begin.
2. After accessing regular programs and improving services in the communities, discussions with Quebec and Canada on Cree rights in regards to Police Services are about to start.
3. The Cree Health Board and the Grand Council are negotiating with Quebec on proper implementation of Section 14 of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement.
4. The Court action has been filed against Quebec and Canada to defend all of the Cree rights in the Agreement.
5. The Grand Council is defending Cree rights in tourism development (Section 28.4 and 28.6 of the James Bay Agreement) against attempts by Quebec to assimilate the Crees into non-Cree organizations.
6. Work will begin next summer on daycare facilities in five Cree communities.
7. Efforts to realize the Cree right to housing against the attempts by the Federal Government to treat the Crees as if there was no "special relationship" with the Federal Crown.
8. The efforts continue to document the impact of unsustainable forest practices on the Crees and to complete the court action against the companies and governments which allow this violation of the Cree Way of Life to continue.
9. All of the other support to the Cree communities continues as we work together to continue the Cree presence over the whole of Eeyou Astchee as a living reality.



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Grand Council of the Crees (of Quebec)
Grand Conseil des Crie (du Québec)

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CREE REGIONAL AUTHORITY
ADMINISTRATION REGIONALE CREE



Take me back

For a moment in time
My mind wanders back
In the early nineteen hun-
dreds
When the Old Post
Waswanipi first existed

Where our ancestors
walked and lived
In harmony in this land
Many have walked in this
trail
Where we have come
from

I wonder what we would
hear
If once again we listened
by their camp light fires
Probably the many good times
shared
Many hardships along that trail

Laughter of women and chil-
dren
As they worked and played
Along side by side

Yes, those were the days
Many of the Elders would say
We lived off the land
Hunted and fished
We were proud of this land
The Great Creator has given us

This was home for our Elders
This was home for our children
We brought them up to protect,
respect
Take only what was needed
To eat and clothe ourselves
Then again it would reproduce
For our next generation to live
on
Yes, we were proud of our land,
Waswanipi

Let me take you back to that
time
For just a moment again
When all have returned from
their winter traplines
It is now summer

Many have come together again
To share their experiences
During those long winters of
separation

One may ask where is Baby
Jane
She didn't make it, illness took
over
And we buried her along the
way
And another may ask where's
Grandpa John
He also didn't make it
We laid him to rest along the
trail


He asked to be buried there
So we could be reminded each
time
We pass, where we came from

But not all is sad
There comes the newlyweds
from last summer
And what's this, they have in
their arm
This is Baby Eva, she replies
She was born along the trail
At the mouth of the river
Called Waswanipi, her birth
place

Yes, if only again we could
Go back in time for just a mo-
ment
Where children respected their
parents
And their Elders
Where people learned to share
When one had none
Did you hear, Wally killed a
moose
He has called all the Elders
All the widows to come
And take a meal for themselves

Yes, says an Elder
These were the good ole days
Where everyone looked out for
each other
This way passed on to us by our
Elders

But somewhere along the trail,
did we take
The wrong turn
Now it's each to their self




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Ouje Bougoumou 745-3911 Réal Lacroix
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Waswanipi 753-2587 Louise Saganash
Looking forward to seeing you then!



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**LES MINES
INMET**

*La Direction du Projet Troilus tient à
souhaiter à tous ses employés,
ses fournisseurs et aux populations de
Mistissini - Chibougamau - Chapais
une très joyeuse Pâques!*

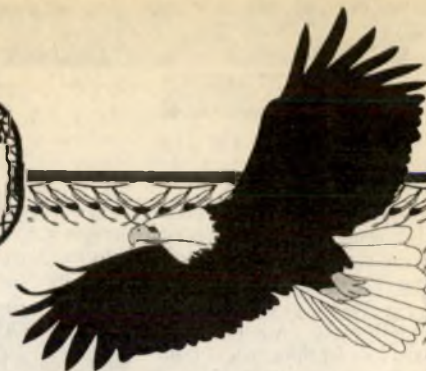
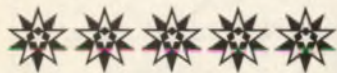
*The management of the Troilus Project
extends its wishes to its employees,
suppliers and to the population of
Mistissini - Chibougamau - Chapais
for a Happy Easter!*





Cree-Naskapi Commission

The Honourable Mr. Justice Rejean F. Paul and the Staff of the Cree-Naskapi Commission would like to congratulate Chief Billy Diamond for having been awarded the 1997 National Aboriginal Achievement Award for Business Leadership and Vision.



Mistissini's Local Economic Conference

April 8, 9 & 10th, 1997

Gordon & Sandy Memorial Youth Center

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Contact person:

Robin McGinley 418-923-3461

MAKE MONEY WITH YOUR PHOTOS!

The Nation is always happy to receive photos - portraits, news photos, landscapes, activities, animals - black and white or colour.

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Don't Forget ! Send your photos with:

1. Your name, address and phone number printed on a label on the back of each photo (do not print on the photo itself!).
2. Captions for each photo. Example: "Mistissini. Dec. 1996. Christmas Parade."
3. Include self-addressed, stamped envelope if you wish photos returned.

NOTE: If you think your photo will make a good cover, please send an 8" x 10" (or larger) print.

If you have any questions, call NEIL at 514-272-3077



Sincere Congratulations

to the winners of the

Raid des Braves Ski-doo race.

We would like to send

our best wishes

to all participants,

especially our very own

rookie team!

From Chief & Council of The Cree Nation of Wemindji

100-BIRTHS

101-BIRTHDAYS

A very happy birthday to a very special

CLASSIFIEDS

old man, Arnold Napash on March 16.
From your special friend and co-worker,
Alvin Cash.

Happy birthday to Nathan on March 9,
Archiesh on March 23, Shayne on March
25, my friend Diane on March 26 and
my big sister Janie on March 31.

Hi! Marjorie. Happy birthday to you on
March 15. From the office girls.

We wanna wish our daughter Bertha
Doreen Sarah Hughboy a happy 7th
birthday. Have a wonderful birthday and
many more to come. With all our love,
hugs and kisses. From mommy and daddy.

It's been two years since you were born.
On March 18, 1995, my eyes were filled
with tears. Because I did not think life
was so precious and I did not want you to
go through what I went through. But since
you came into our lives you made me
realize what life is. Not only this earthly
life but the eternal life after. Yes son, I
can say you've seen some bad things
already in your life. I wish you a happy
birthday, my son Leonard Samuel and I
will always give you my best in raising
you up the right way. With the help and
faith in the Lord it can be done. With all
my love and prayers, your dad, Melvin
Rabbitskin.

Happy belated birthdays to Jeremy B.
Matches (his 4th birthday on Feb. 3) and
to our beautiful niece Dorianna Bobbish
(her 6th birthday on Feb. 21) We love
you both so much and thought about you
on your special day. We miss you both a
lot. Love always, Edith and Gordon in
Mist. xoxoxoxoxo.

Happy belated 8th birthday to Valentina
Brien. Hope you're happy now because
you used to look at the calendar and count
how many days left on your birthday. Once
again happy birthday and don't stop
singing. I know you love to sing. From
your guardians, Edith and Gordon.

Happy belated birthday to my cousin and
friend of mine Ethel Cookish on Feb. 27,
97 in Chisasibi. Even though I don't call
or write it doesn't mean I don't care for
you. Hope to see you on my next visit to
Chisasibi. From your cousin and friend
Verna Bobbish (Cheezo). Eastmain, Que.

Happy birthday to my daddy Martin
Perusse. me and mommy miss you very
much and we can't wait to see you on
March break. Love, your son Colin and
Vicky. P.S. Happy Valentine's Day,
xoxoxoxo

Happy 2nd birthday to our son Harry
Jacob Peter Mattawashish on Feb. 28, 97.
And may all your dreams come true and
remember we love you very much. Once
again happy birthday and I love you with
all my heart and I give you a hug and a
kiss. Take good care son. From your
parents Trifona and Peter.

Happy 2nd birthday to big brother Harry

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Mattawashish. We love you so much. I wish you the best in the years to come. Once again, happy birthday on Feb. 28, 97. I give you a hug and a kiss and take care. From your brother Brendan Matt. (Mist.)

A belated birthday wish to my sister Emma Matt. on January 15, 97 in North Bay. Also to Leonard Matt. on January 29, 97. Leonard, keep up with your flying. I'm so proud that your dream came true (pilot) From Louise Matt. (Mistissini).

Happy birthday to Denny Andrew Wapachee celebrating his 11th birthday on March 13th. God bless you. We love you and have fun with your friends. With love, mom, brother Daniel, sister Faith and your special nephew Tyrel (MF)

Birthday wish going out to a special friend daisy House on March 21 and

many more wonderful birthdays heading your way. Hope you'll have lots of fun and don't eat too much of your cake. I'm still waiting for my baby's blanket hope you can send it before her birthday. From friend Josephine H.

Happy birthday to John J. Wapachee on March 3, 97. We love and miss you so much. We hope you'll come back to us someday. We love you very much. Fr. Chantal B. Brittany WB (Whap).

Happy 1st birthday on March 27 to our nephew who's in Nemaska, Tommy Isaac Matches (Tin Tin). We miss you and we love you. Love always, your aunt Edith and uncle Gordon (Mist) Lots of hugs and kisses to you Tin Tin.

Happy birthday to my sister in law Sheila Mark Stewart who will be celebrating her day on March 25, 97. How about us gals

go down to "Texas" to celebrate this birthday of yours. (Gloria)

A special friend of mine will celebrate her birthday on April Fool's Day. My sister Rebecca Bearskin. I wish you all the best in life and have a wonderful day with your own little family on your special day. I love you my baby sister and take good care of your little girl whom I love so much (Barry too) Happy birthday and many more to come. Love always, your sister Edith Gunner. Hugs and kisses to Juanita. P.S. Hi mom and dad. I love you both. Oh!, Rebecca, Gordon says happy birthday.

Happy birthday to Melissa Marilyn Etapp on March 6. She'll be hitting her seventeenth birthday. I'm very fond to have a sister like her. At I may look to her for advice and she's always there when I need a friend. I just want to wish her all the best in her years to come. I'm very proud of what she turned into. Still that quiet girl I know. From sister.

Happy 1st birthday to our special daughter Shania Pompana on March 30. Hope you'll have lots of fun on your special day. Remember you brought lots of happiness in our lives since the day you were born. With lots of hugs and kisses, mommy Josephine, your daddy Tim and your bro Aaron.

Happy first birthday to my first grandson Tyrel Christopher Evan Cheena Wapachee on Feb. 27, 97. We love you. You are very special to us. With love, granny Wapachee and uncles Denny and Daniel. (Moose F.) xoxoxo.

It's only one year you've been around and gee you're growing up so fast. Happy birthday to you Jonathan Joshua Richard pet on Feb. 23 and it's so thrilling to have you as a brother. Don't forget I will always love you! Your one and only sister you can depend on everything. Hugs and kisses, Evangeline Rose Petawabano (Mist)

About two months ago my sister turned twenty two on January 8. I told her I would send her an ad but I never had the chance to. Anyways I just want to wish her a belated birthday. I also I hope I get to see her on my orientation trip in about two weeks. Too bad though I applied at Algonquin. I did think about Dawson. Anyways, see you then Rachel. From your sister in Waskaganish (A. Etapp)

Happy birthday to Florrie Mark-Stewart on April the 3rd. From Christopher, Sarah and the boys. xoxoxo.

A belated birthday to: Casey M. Jan. 25, Clayton M. Jan. 26, Steve L. Jan. 31, and to my precious little girl who turned 3 on Jan. 3! Nicole Cooper, I love you my little rascal. Love you all fr: Margo MC in O.J.

Happy Birthday to my secret sister Emily Swallow (Philip) on Feb. 13 and Happy Valentine's day. May God's love surround you as the days go by and strength you in 1997. Focus on the Lord! Love and

Prayers, Secret sister. Matthew 24:13

Happy belated birthday going out to our daughter in Great Whale Yvonne-Janie Mamianskum on Jan 1, '97 and to our granddaughter Melissa Snowboy (Chisasibi) on Jan 9, '97, to our oldest son Joseph Snowboy on Jan. 16, '97. Have lots of birthdays in the years to come. We will always love you. Love mom Violet & dad John Snowboy (grandparents).

We'd like to send our girlfriend a birthday greetings Lucy-Ann S. on Feb 28, 97. She'll be celebrating her 14th birthday. Hope you'll have a lot of fun on your big day and also we'd like to ask you to be our valentine babe, that's if Shoebit lets you go out with us - at least one of us. We send our love: Gordon, Burton, Raymond, Ralph, Justin, and J.J. (Shoebitish).

Happy Birthday to our sweetheart, Lucy-Ann Snowboy on Feb 28, 97 and many more to come. We wanted to get you something special for your birthday. We didn't want something that would wear out or get used up. We wanted something that would last wherever you go...our hearts, and our love. We love you Fr: Ralph and Jesse-James (Shoebitish).

Birthday greetings going out to Lucy-Ann Snowboy. She'll be celebrating her 14th birthday on the 28th of Feb. 97. May your big day be as special as you are. Good luck in school. Don't skip. We love you. Margaret-Rose, Andrew, Ralph and Double J (Shoebitish).

Happy belated 14th birthday to Melissa Snowboy on Jan 9, 97 & to Joseph Snowboy on Jan. 16, 97 in Chis. Hope you both had fun on your big day. Happy birthday and many more years to come also to Yvonne-Janie Mamianskum in Whap. on Jan 01, 97. We miss you. Come back home. Love always: Margaret-Rose, Andrew, Ralph and J.J.

We'd like to wish Nadia Petawabano a happy 17th birthday on Tuesday, Feb. 18/97. Happy birthday and many more to come. Love, Melanie and Carla. P.S. Don't party, it's going to be a Tuesday. Ha! Ha! Ha!

We'd like to wish our friends a very very special birthday wish. First to Wild Thing on January 3 and of course to Snakes on January 10. Hey Party Girl, hope you had fun on your birthday as much as we did. Maybe next time we'll have more than 3 cases, 3 wasn't enough for all of us. Hey girls, hope you had fun at the Bar Central. Sorry we didn't join, maybe next time. Hey Snakes, did you have fun on your birthday? Sorry your new drinking buddies couldn't join us!! P.S. How was your chicken burger!! You know what I'm saying!! Yah Mon!!!

Happy Birthday to Greta, we were thinking of you on your special day Feb 3. We wish you the best. We love you and

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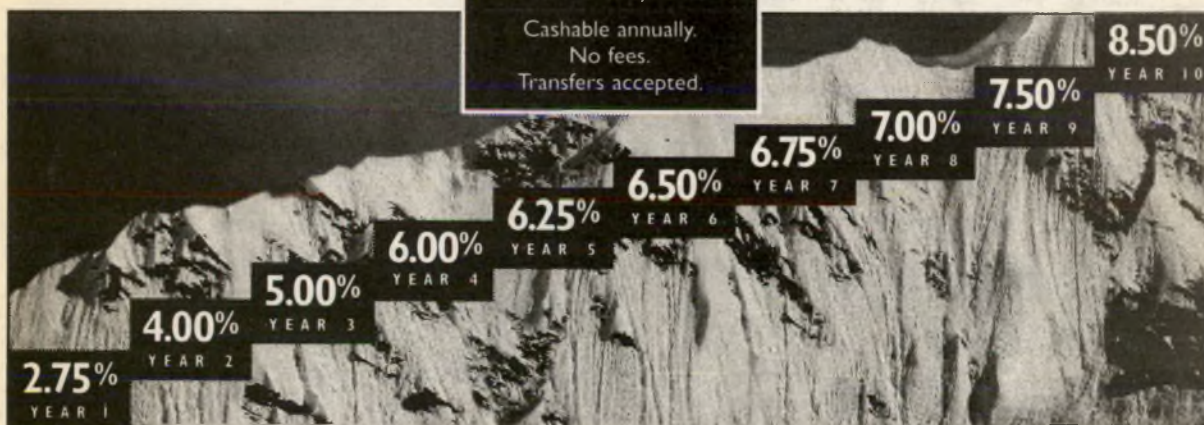
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miss you. From grandpa grandma Brien, XOXOXOXO. Mist.

A special birthday wish going out to my uncle Matthew Pet. on Jan. 3. Hey uncle I think it's time you changed your team. I still think you would look better in red. Also congratulations on your team who went to the finals during the tournament maybe if you wore a red sweater you would have won. Fr: your niece who is crazy about Montreal than about Toronto.

Once again it's Feb. 25 and another birthday for Tanya Blackned. Sisters are

the best, I know that's true because of you. Happy 19th birthday. Love always, Rachel (Please hug little Karly for me) XOXOXOXO.

A happy belated birthday to a fine handsome boy who's turning 4 years old on Jan. 29. Teddy Leroy Patrick Cheezo (East). We really miss you cause you're very special to us. Love always: Harriet, Margaret, Elivas and George Stephen (Wask).

Happy 4th birthday to our grandson Teddy Boysh. Hope your wishes come true. Love: Jooshoom Patrick and Googoom Florrie Stephen (Wask).

Happy 3rd birthday to Gabriella Atsynia on Feb 13. Have fun on your special day and may your birthday be a perfect one. Also happy valentine's day to you and your brother Albert. From the Gilpins at 10 Goose Rd. Wemindji.

We'd like to wish our son Darren W. Shecapio a happy 7th b-day on Feb. 15/97. Many more to come and we love you!!! With love always: Mom & Dad XOXOXO (Wask).

Happy B-day to our Bro' Darren on Feb 15/97. Hope this day will be a wonderful one for a bro' who's such a lot of fun! Anyways happy b-day & we love ya!! From sis Doreen & little bro' Josh (Wask).

Happy birthday to our Goddaughter Kayla Hill on Jan 31 and also to Brandon Hill on Feb 5. From Ann and Smally.

Happy birthday to my uncle Stanley Kitty on Feb. 4 who is in Waskaganish. Can't wait for you to come back home so my mom can borrow your ski-doo so we can go ride around. Love and miss you Curtis.

Happy birthday to our son Curtis Meskino on Feb 5. Hope your wishes come true and we love you very much. From mom and dad.

Sending two birthday wishes to my best friends Cathy and Nathalie on Feb 4, 1997. Happy 19th birthday from your

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friend always Christine S.

Wishing my oldest son Clarence a happy birthday on Feb 18/97 and my oldest daughter Gertie on March 15/97. May God richly bless you. Love & prayers, mom Annie & dad Roderick.

Happy birthday to my daughter Sally Rose Wapachee on Feb. 9. We love you. May your day be as special as you are. Love always. From mom & dad (Nem).

Happy birthday to my mom & dad Isabel & Joseph Wapachee on Jan. 11 & Jan. 2. I love you mom & dad. Love always from your daughter Sally Rose Wapachee (Nem).

Happy 1st birthday to Alexis Sabeth Wabmeegwin Mark on Jan 31th. May God bless you and keep you safe all your life. When you grow older, may you always do what is right - to make your parents proud. With love & prayers, Priscilla Hollands xox.

Happy birthday to a wonderful sister Jane J. Neeposh on Feb 21. In this changing world, it's nice to know that one thing is forever... You'll always be our sister! Have a great day! Love, Cindy & Stacy.

Happy 18th birthday to my sister Jane J. Neeposh on Feb. 21. May love & happiness be today's gifts to you. Happy birthday! Love Uriah.

Happy 18th birthday to our daughter Jane on Feb. 21. May your memories on your special day become as cherished as those you've given to us. We love you, mom & dad.

To my cute, lovable, adorable, huggable (I could go on & on) handsome grandson Nakonee. Happy 2nd birthday on Feb. 17. You are such a joy to everyone around you. What would I do without you?! We all love you so very much! XOXOX

Happy 18th b-day to my eating buddy Jane J. Neeposh. Oh my God, your already 18. Lucky you. Well I'll be 18 soon and will party like dudes. Just kidding. Hope your dreams come true. From your eating buddy, Racheal B.

Happy b-day to our skinny friend Jane. Thank you for your friendship, you had been a real good friend to us. Good luck in your upcoming yrs. From all of us. And remember we'll always be there for you.

Happy birthday to a kind and wonderful husband and a father Larry Salt on March 22, 1997. We may have our ups and downs and will have more ahead of us, but remember always the love we share with each other and our children will make us stronger each day that goes by. Once more Happy birthday and many more to come. We love you very much. Helen, JR. & Joshua.

Birthday greetings to our granny Gloria Tomatuk. She celebrates her birthday on Feb 21st. Don't ever forget how much you are loved. We wish you joy and love from your grandkids, Graham and Stacey Cheezo in Eastmain.

Wishing a happy birthday to my sister and friend Ellen on March 22nd. You have a wonderful day, cause you deserve it. You know where I am, if you need a friend. Love from your sis, Brenda in Eastmain.

Belated birthday wish going out to Miss Deborah Wapachee on the 1st of March. May the good Lord bless you. Friend always, Brenda-Rose Wapachee.

Happy 4th birthday to our cute brother Silas Paul from Wemindji. Also happy birthday to our wonderful and caring dad. We hope you two have fun celebrating your birthdays on your special day March 29th. But don't give mommy a hard time. She'll have to celebrate her birthday too. Happy birthday mommy on April first. Hope your birthday will be special as you are. We miss all three of you very much and can't wait to see you all again. Love always, William'sh and Amy, with hugs and kisses.

Happy belated birthday! To Nina Metabie on Feb. 26 and to my brother Delphis Gunner on Feb. 4. Happy birthday to both of you! Fr. cousin and sister - Melanie G. (Mist)

Birthday greetings going out to those party animals of "Singapour" many moons ago. To Margaret N. in Montreal on Feb. 20, Sophia J. in Waskaganish on March 5 and to Nellie P. in Chisasibi on March 21. We had a blast! Don't you wish you could celebrate your birthdays jumping around on the dance floor of "Singapour"? Anyway hope you all have fun on your birthdays, or at least try. From your friend Pauline M. in Chisasibi.

We want to wish a happy birthday to Mary-Lou on March 29. Have a great time on your birthday. From all of us at M&M Restaurant.

Happy birthday to a friend of mine in Chisasibi, Nellie Pepabano (on March 21) Are you now over the hill? Just kidding. From: Edith. P.S. Do you still love to listen to Willie Nelson?

Wishing a very happy 1st birthday to our wonderful granddaughter Alexis Mark on Jan 31. You're a very special girl and yes, we do love you very much. Love, from Kookum Charlotte and Joomshoum George M. Shecapio.

Belated birthday to our brother Conrad Blueboy on February 24, 1997. Wishing you 13th birthday and many more to come. We love you! From all your sisters and especially your little nephew Donovan.

I'd like to wish my son Walter a happy 5th birthday on Feb. 10. Happy birthday

and many more to come. I love you so much. Love mom.

I'd like to wish a happy birthday to my husband Mervin on Feb. 28/97. I love you with all my heart. Love always your wife Beverly.

We'd like to wish a happy birthday to our daddy Mervin Cheezo on Feb. 28/97. We love you. From your daughter Mervina and your son Marvin.

I'd like to wish a happy birthday to my husband Johnny on Feb. 11/97. Though, you rarely hear me say this, "I love you," "Je t'aime," "Chisachihetin." May you have a wonderful birthday and many more to come. Love always, Gloria.

Happy birthday to the following: Floyd Hester on Feb. 14, and to Bert Hester on Feb 26 and I would like to day happy valentine's day to Jack D. and Christopher Hester. I love you both. Fr: Barbara D.H.

Happy 5th birthday to the prettiest little girl, Bete Blackned on March 16. From Auntie Nellie and Uncle Brian. P.S. Hi, Nina! What are you doing in Wemindji?

Happy birthday to my daddy, Jason Serafinowicz on March 24th. From your little girl, Vannie.

Birthday greetings going out to our dad, Johnny Tomatuk on Feb 11/97. Though, we give you hard times, we love you, dad. But you have to admit, there are good times too, right? Love: Shawna, Sheldon, Katherine & Sherri-Ann.

I'd like to wish two special people in my life a happy birthday, my father Johnny on Feb. 11th and to my dearest mother Gloria on Feb. 27th. Hope you guys have gun on your birthdays (I know I would) Just not that much fun okay??? May God cherish the things you have done for me. I love you both. So happy birthday to you both and many more to come. Boy, you guys are getting old. Love ya both! Fr: Shawna T.

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